

KEVIN S. DECKER
 Professor of Philosophy
 Eastern Washington University
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Professor, Philosophy, Eastern Washington University	2014-present
Associate Professor, Philosophy, EWU	2010-2014
Assistant Professor, Philosophy, EWU	2005-2010
PhD in Philosophy, St. Louis University	2004

Areas of Specialization: Social and Political Theory, Ethics, American Pragmatism, Philosophy and Popular Culture, German Idealism, Romantic Thought

Areas of Competence: Applied Ethics, History of Philosophy (Modern and Contemporary), Phenomenology, Critical Theory, Philosophy of Religion, Philosophies of the Natural and Social Sciences.

Educational Leadership Experience:

- President, EWU Faculty Organization 2015-16
- Vice-president, EWU Faculty Organization 2014-15
- Planning committee member, Third Annual EWU Strategic Planning Conference 2013-14
- Participant in AAC&U Conference on Disruptions & Transformations in General Education 2013
- Associate Dean, College of Arts, Letters and Education, EWU 2012-14
- Director of the Philosophy program, EWU 2006-10, 2011-12
- Presenter for “Managing the 21st Century Classroom,” eLearning Management Symposium, EWU 2013
- Provost’s representative, AAC&U Student Success Conference 2011

SCHOLARLY WORK

Books—author, editor or co-editor

- (2016, forthcoming) *The Philosophy of Breaking Bad* (Palgrave MacMillan), co-editor with Robert Arp
- (2016, forthcoming) *The Ultimate Star Trek and Philosophy* (Wiley-Blackwell), co-editor with Jason T. Eberl
- (2015, forthcoming) *The Ultimate Star Wars and Philosophy* (Wiley-Blackwell), co-editor with Jason T. Eberl
- (2013) *Who is Who? The Philosophy of Doctor Who* (I.B. Tauris, London/Palgrave Macmillan), author

- (2013) *The Ultimate South Park and Philosophy* (Wiley-Blackwell), co-edited with Robert Arp
- (2013) *Ender's Game and Philosophy* (Wiley-Blackwell), editor.
- (2010) *Star Trek e a Filosofia* (Madras—Brazilian edition of *Star Trek and Philosophy*)
- (2009) *Terminator and Philosophy* (Wiley-Blackwell), co-edited with Richard Brown.
- (2009) *Zvezdane staze i filozofija* (Hrvastki—Polish edition of *Star Trek and Philosophy*)
- (2008) *Star Trek and Philosophy* (Open Court Publishers), co-edited with Jason T. Eberl.
- (2005) *Star Wars e a Filosofia* (Madras—Brazilian edition of *Star Wars and Philosophy*).
- (2005) *Star Wars and Philosophy* (Open Court Publishers) co-edited with Jason T. Eberl.

Publications—refereed journals and book chapters:

- (forthcoming, 2016) “The Human Adventure is Just Beginning: Secularism, Religion and *Star Trek*” in *The Ultimate Star Trek and Philosophy* (Wiley-Blackwell), eds. Decker & Eberl.
- (forthcoming, 2015) “Dark Times: The End of the Old Republic and the Beginning of Chinese Philosophy,” *The Ultimate Star Wars and Philosophy* (Wiley-Blackwell), eds. Eberl & Decker.
- (forthcoming, 2015) “Science and Nature without God,” in Robert Arp, ed., *Debating Aquinas' Proofs for God's Existence in the 21st Century* (Rodopi Philosophy and Religion Series)
- (forthcoming, 2015) “The Vale of Top Hats: Duplicity, Duplicability, and *The Prestige*,” in George Dunn and Jason T. Eberl, eds. *The Philosophy of Christopher Nolan* (Arlington)
- (2014) “Personal Identity and Na’vi Wisdom,” in *Avatar and Philosophy*, ed. George Dunn (Blackwell Publishers).
- (2014) “Dewey, Aristotle, and the Spectator Theory of Knowledge,” in Christopher Kirby, ed., *Dewey and the Ancients: Essays on Hellenic and Hellenistic Themes in the Philosophy of John Dewey* (Bloomsbury Academic)
- (2014) “Culture, Hermeneutics and the Batman,” in *The Philosophy of Tim Burton*, ed. Jennifer McMahon (University of Kentucky).
- (2013), with Mary Ann Keogh Hoss, “When All Roads Lead to Rome: The Catholic Hospital Dilemma Can Impact All Hospital Care,” *The Open Journal of Leadership* 2:4 (December 2013), 106-109
- (2013) “The Rally to Restore Irony: Thank God It’s Stephen Colbert!” in Jason Holt, ed., *The Ultimate Daily Show and Philosophy* (Wiley-Blackwell)
- (2013) “Sitting Downtown in a Kentucky Fried Chicken, One Toke Over the Line,” in Rob Arp and Kevin S. Decker, ed., *The Ultimate South Park and Philosophy* (Wiley-Blackwell)
- (2013) “There are No Universal Principles That Should Guide Medical Practice and Research,” and “Response to Pullman,” in Rob Arp, ed., *Contemporary Debates in Philosophy: Bioethics* (Wiley-Blackwell).
- (2012) “In London Street: The Dewey-Trotsky Encounter in Politics and Praxis,” *Inter-American Journal of Philosophy* 3:2 (Fall 2012).
- (2012) “There’s Always a Bigger Fish: Tyranny, Power and the Rule of the Ruthless,” in Nancy Reagin and Janice Liedl, eds., *Star Wars and History* (Wiley-Blackwell).
- (2012) “‘Something Terribly Flawed’: Philosophy and the Illustrated Man,” in Rob Arp, ed., *Tattoos and Philosophy: I Ink, Therefore I Am* (Wiley-Blackwell). (2012)
- “What Does Your Tattoo Say About You?” *Inked Magazine* (May 2012 issue)

- (2012) "Perspectives and Ideologies: A Pragmatic Use for Recognition Theory," *Philosophy and Social Criticism* 38:2 (February 2012).
- (2010) "Clarence Irving Lewis," and "Charles Sanders Peirce," entries in *Key Terms in Logic* (Continuum).
- (2010), "The Ethics of the Last of the Time Lords," in *Doctor Who and Philosophy*, eds. Paula Smithka and Court Lewis (Open Court).
- (2010) "Medicine's Not a Science! Dr. Leo Spaceman and the Role of the Incompetent Professional in Today's America," *The Philosopher's Magazine* 51 (invited submission).
- (2010) "Medicine's Not a Science! Dr. Leo Spaceman and the Role of the Incompetent Professional in Today's America," in *30 Rock and Philosophy*, ed. J. Jeremy Wisniewski (Blackwell Publishers).
- (2009) "Teaching Autonomy and Emergence Through Popular Culture: Kant, Dewey and Captain Picard," *Teaching Philosophy* 32:4, 331-343.
- (2009) "Object Lessons: Perceiving What's Hidden in Transformers," with Karl Erbacher and Gabriel Rye, in *Transformers and Philosophy*, eds. Elizabeth Stillwagon and John Shook (Open Court).
- (2008) "Clarence Irving Lewis," *The Reasoner* 2:10 (October 2008), 12-13.
- (2008) "George Herbert Mead's 'The Evolution of the Psychological Element,' Lectures at the University of Chicago, 1899-1900," editing and introduction, in *Transactions of the Charles S. Peirce Society* 44:3 (Summer 2008), 469-507.
- (2008) "Inhuman Nature: What's It Like to Be a Borg?" in *Star Trek and Philosophy* (Open Court).
- (2007) "Charles Sanders Peirce," *The Reasoner* 1:8 (December 2007), 12.
- (2007) "Stephen Colbert, Irony and Speaking Truthiness to Power," in *The Daily Show and Philosophy*, edited by Jason Holt (Blackwell Publishers)
- (2006), "Knockout! Killer's Kiss, the Somatic, and Kubrick," in *The Philosophy of Stanley Kubrick*, ed. Jerold J. Abrams (University of Kentucky Press).
- (2006, with Robert Arp), "That Fatal Kiss: Bond, Ethics, and the Objectification of Women," in *James Bond and Philosophy*, eds. James South and Jacob Held (Open Court Publishers).
- (2005) "By Any Means Necessary: Tyranny, Democracy, Republic and Empire," in *Star Wars and Philosophy*.
- (2003) "John Dewey's Unique Political Contribution," *Philosophy Now* 43 (October/November 2003).
- (2003) "Hegel and Pragmatism," "Hegel and Dewey," entries for *Brazilian Portal of Philosophy*. <http://www.filosofia.pro.br/hegel_and_pragmatism.html, ...hegel_and_dewey.html>.
- (2002) "Habermas on Human Rights and Cloning: A Pragmatist Response," *Essays in Philosophy* vol. 3 no. 2 (2002): "Pragmatism and Neo-Pragmatism." <<http://commons.pacificu.edu/eip/vol3/iss2/11>>.
- (2001) "Right and Recognition: Criminal Action and Intersubjectivity in Hegel's Early Ethics," *History of Political Thought* 22 (2): 300-316.
- (2001) "Ground, Relation, Representation: Kantianism and the Early Peirce," *Transactions of the Charles S. Peirce Society* 37 (2): 179-206.

- (2000) “The Open System and Its Enemies: Bruno, the Idea of Infinity, and Speculation in Early Modern Philosophy of Science,” *American Catholic Philosophical Quarterly* 74 (4): 599-620.
- (2000) “The Limits of Radical Openness: Gadamer on Socratic Dialectic and Plato’s Idea of the Good,” *Symposium* 4 (1): 5-32.
- (2000) “Kant’s Two *Erfahrungen*: An Equivocation of ‘Experience’ in the First *Critique*,” *Minerva—An Internet Journal of Philosophy* vol. 4.
<<http://www.ul.ie/~philos/vol4/kant.html>>.

Presentations:

- “The Human Adventure is Just Beginning: *Star Trek*, Religion, and Secularism,” Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association Annual Conference (forthcoming, April 2016)
- “Craft as Experience: Aesthetics as if Practice Matters,” 2016 Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy Annual Conference (March 2016)
- “Men in Dark Times: Lessons in Chinese Philosophy from *Star Wars*,” Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association Annual Conference (April 2015)
- “The Practical Turn in Pragmatism: Intellectualism, Pluralism and Material Culture,” 2014 Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy Annual Conference (March 2014)
- “Research is a Dish Best Served Cold: Fanning the Flames of Undergraduate Research Using Pop Culture,” Faculty Administrator Network session at the 2013 National Council of Undergraduate Research meeting, LaCrosse Wisconsin (April 2013)
- “In London Street: The Dewey-Trotsky Encounter in Politics and Praxis,” 2013 Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy Annual Conference (March 2013).
- “What Does Naturalism Mean by Practical?” Inland Northwest Pragmatist Network, Gonzaga University (January 2013).
- “The Permanent Trotskyist Deposit in John Dewey’s Thought,” Dewey in Mexico International Conference, Instituto de Investigaciones Filosóficas at the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, (January 2012).
- “The Case Against Avatars,” Gonzaga University Faith, Film, and Philosophy series (fall 2010).
- “Intelligently Self-Transcendent: Dewey and De Beauvoir on Overcoming Ethics,” Contemporary Issues in Feminist Research series, Eastern Washington University (fall 2009).
- “Composing Differences: Dewey, Schiller, and Aesthetic Holism,” at the 2009 Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy Annual Conference (spring 2009).
- “Shedding Dignity, Manifesting Grace: Dewey and Schiller on Art and Politics,” at the 2008 Midwest Political Science Association National Conference (spring 2008).
- “Between Bare Brute Events and Transparent Meaning: Dewey and James on Recognition,” at the Pacific American Philosophical Association meeting (spring 2007)
- Organizer, “Pragmatism and Its Others” panel for the William James Society at the Pacific American Philosophical Association meeting (spring 2007)

- “Unsanctifying Democracy: Joas, Religious Valuation, and Dewey’s *A Common Faith*,” (Spring 2006), Thirty-Third Annual Meeting of the Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy, San Antonio, Texas (discussion paper).
- Discussion leader: Sidney Hook, *Philosophy and the Tragic Sense of Life*, Seventh Annual Meeting of the Midwest Pragmatist Study Group of the Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy, Loyola University Chicago, (fall 2003).
- "Pragmatism is an Urbanism: Response to James W. Sheppard," (spring 2003), Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy Annual Meeting, Denver, Colorado.
- "Self-Development and Democracy: The Basis for a Deweyan Aesthetic Politics" (fall 2002), Sixth Annual Meeting of the Midwest Pragmatist Study Group of the Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy, Loyola University Chicago.
- "Habermas on Human Rights and Cloning: A Pragmatist Response" (spring 2002), 30th Conference on Value Inquiry, Center for the Study of Bioethics at the Medical College of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.
- “‘Cheerfully Naturalizing’ the Virtues” (fall 2001), Building Bridges: the Southern Illinois University at Carbondale Graduate Conference; St. Louis University Graduate Conference, St. Louis, Missouri.
- “Naturalism in Dewey’s Political Theory: Explaining the Value of Democratic Practices” (spring 2001), 25th Annual MidSouth Philosophy Conference, Memphis, Tennessee.
- “William James’s Transsubjective Dilemma” (spring 2001), Comment, 25th Annual MidSouth Philosophy Conference, Memphis, Tennessee.
- “Right and Recognition: Criminal Action and Intersubjectivity in Hegel’s Early Ethics” (spring 1999), University of Illinois Graduate Philosophy Conference, Champaign-Urbana

AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Appreciation Award, Black Student Union, EWU	2015
Honorable Mention, Outstanding Faculty Advisor, EWU Academic Advising Association	2013
Outstanding Faculty Award in Teaching, EWU	2011
Outstanding Faculty Awards in Teaching, Research and Scholarship, EWU	2009
Distinguished Faculty Award in Teaching, EWU	2009
One of five Professors of the Year, EWU	2009
Fontbonne/St. Louis University Teaching Fellowship	2002-03
Pragmatism Archive Research Grant	2002

COLLEGIAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

Graduate Faculty “Third” on Master’s committees:

- 2006: Cody Corrigan, “The Cold War in Comic Books” (History)
- 2008: Shira Richman, “Shiksa Horah” (Poetry); Jaynee Burks (Masters in Social Work); Michelle Schultz, “Prejudice in *Harry Potter*” (English, 2008)
- 2009: Shanna Ferrell, “Correlates of Risk Recognition and Response: Mindfulness, Experiential Avoidance, Sexual Assertiveness, and Victimization History” (Clinical Psychology);

- Paul Warner “Content and Community” (Journalism); Jonathan Frey, “The Night Office: A Novel Excerpt” (Creative Writing)
- 2010: Patricia Rasmussen, “But Al That He was a Philosopher: A Chaucerian Application of Ockham’s Theory of Terms” (English,); Brent Schaeffer “Postcards from the Less than Important West” (Poetry); Thomas “T.J.” Fuller, “Candid Nerve: A Selection of Short Stories” (Creative Writing)
 - 2011: Holly Hills “Online Gaming Communities” (Communication Studies); Eddie Aguilar “Retro-Communication Technology in Public Speaking” (Communication Studies); Tim Greenup, (Creative Writing)
 - 2012: Shannon Corrigan, “Using Pop Culture in the English Composition Curriculum” (Communication Studies); Catherine Johnson (Poetry)
 - 2013: Aileen Keown Vaux, “Black Salt” (Poetry), Scott Kinder-Pyle (Poetry, 2013), Casey Fowler, “Organs and Oregano” (Poetry), Amanda Erickson, “The A B Cs of Font: The Effects of Changing Default Fonts (Rhetoric & Technical Communication);
 - 2014: Nada Kharashi, “Using Technology in Early Childhood Education” (Education); Joanna King-Yost (Creative Writing); Kristin Gotch (Creative Writing); Lindsey Jones (Creative Writing); Philip Clayton Gregory (University of Illinois-Springfield, Philosophy); Diana Emmons, “Perspectives,” (Creative Writing); Ahmad Halawani “Reducing Medical Errors” (Public Administration)
 - 2015: Alfredo Llamedo (Social Work); Melissa Dzedzic (Creative Writing); Chelsea Johnson (Creative Writing); Casey Guerin (Creative Writing)

Undergraduate research mentoring:

Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association Annual Conference

- 2015—New Orleans, LA: two student submissions

National Council on Undergraduate Research

- 2015—Cheney, WA: four student submissions
- 2013—LaCrosse, WI: four student submissions

Eastern Washington University Student Research and Creative Works Symposium

- 2014—four student presentations
- 2013—five student presentations
- 2012—four student presentations
- 2010—two student presentations
- 2009—three student presentations
- 2008—six student presentations
- 2007—three student presentations

Committee and shared governance work (at EWU unless noted):

- Member, Faculty Commons/Teaching Academy Taskforce 2014-15
- Member, Faculty Senate Student Success and Retention Committee 2012-16
 - Co-chair, 2015-16
- Co-chair, General Education Review and Reform Committee 2013-14

- Department Personnel Committee, Modern Languages & Literatures 2011-15
- President, EWU chapter of the National Academic Advising Association 2011-12
- Member, Gender and Cultural Diversity subcommittee of the GECC 2009-10
- Member, Arts and Humanities subcommittee of the GECC 2006-09,
2010-11
- Member, President's Strategic Planning Committee 2011
- Vice chair, General Education Curriculum Committee (GECC) 2009-11
- Council Member, Rules Committee 2006-07
- Member, Faculty Planning Advisory Council 2006-08
 - Chair, 2006-07, Co-chair 2007-08

Lectures, Addresses and Event Organization:

- “Would You Kill the Fat Man? Testing Your Moral Intuitions,” Students of Color Symposium, EWU 2015
- “Gallifrey Falls No More: *Doctor Who*, Romanticism, and Science Fantasy,” invited lecture for North Idaho College Philosophy Club 2015
- “What Should We Do With All This Freedom? or An Unfeasibly Short History of the Philosophy of Recreation and Leisure,” invited keynote speaker for the first annual RCLS Capstone Conference, EWU 2015
- Event organizer, “Black Lives Matter: Public Safety and Criminal Justice,” in conjunction with Black Student Union, EWU 2015
- “For Now...,” invited speaker for *Cosmos: A Spacetime Odyssey* kick-off, co-sponsored by KAYU-TV Spokane and Mobius Science Center 2014
- “Just Who is Who?” *Doctor Who and Philosophy* reading, Auntie's Bookstore 2013
- “Sad is Happy for Deep People,” *Doctor Who and Philosophy* book talk, McNair Scholars Book Release Event 2013
- Invited Keynote Speaker, Central Valley H.S. Junior State of America 2013
- Respondent to “The Meaning of Freedom,” Dr. Alena Rudenka, Fulbright Scholar from Belarus University 2013
- “The Virtues of Conscientiousness and the Value of Planning,” American Planning Association “Law and Ethics” Session, Spokane 2012
- Keynote Address (with Terrance MacMullan) at the 3rd Annual West Valley School District Civics Conference at EWU 2012
- “Faculty and Advising...Some Perspectives,” session at the First Annual ACADA Advisor Training, EWU 2012
- Interview on atheism on KYRS radio show “Revolutionary Spirituality” 2012
- “The Varieties of (Non) Religious Experience, EWU Diversity Days presentation 2012
- “Focus on China,” International Lunch and Learn Roundtable, EWU 2011
- “Human Wreckage,” response to author Jess Walter's keynote address at the 38th Annual Meeting of the Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy, Spokane 2011
- “Humanist Views on Compassion: Nussbaum and Rorty,” lecture at Friends of Compassion service organization, Spokane 2010

Professional service:

- Invited manuscript reviewer for *The Critical Thinking Toolkit* (Wiley-Blackwell) 2015
- Invited manuscript reviewer for *Fallacious! Common Fallacies and How to Avoid Them* (Wiley-Blackwell) 2015
- Invited book reviewer for *William James and the Transatlantic Conversation* (Oxford), for *Nineteenth Century Prose* journal 2014
- Managing Editor, *William James Studies* 2014-present
- Invited paper reviewer, *Administrative Theory and Praxis* 2014
- Invited paper reviewer, *Philosophy and Social Criticism* 2012
- Invited book reviewer for *John Dewey's Unmodern and Modern Philosophy* (Southern Illinois University Carbondale Press), for *European Journal of Pragmatism and American Philosophy* journal 2012
- Invited submission reviewer, *The Journal of Philosophical Research* 2012
- Conference Session Organizer for the Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy at the American Philosophical Association-Pacific 2012-15
- Invited Reviewer, National Council of Undergraduate Research's *Proceedings of the National Conferences on Undergraduate Research* 2012
- Invited manuscript reviewer, *Never Discuss Religion or Politics* (Wiley-Blackwell) 2010
- Invited manuscript reviewer, *Critical Thinking: An Introduction to Reasoning Well* (Continuum Publishers) 2010
- Invited manuscript reviewer, *The Philosophy of Ang Lee* (University of Kentucky Press) 2010
- Invited manuscript reviewer, *Science Fiction and Religion* (University of Illinois Press) 2010
- Invited paper reviewer, *Contemporary Pragmatism* 2010-present
- Invited paper reviewer, *Transactions of the Charles S. Peirce Society* 2010-present

Community and other service work:

- Abstract Coordinator for Philosophy, Ethics & Religious Studies, 29th Annual National Council on Undergraduate Research, EWU 2014-15
- Workshop facilitator, First Year Experience creation seminars, EWU 2014
- Co-writer and co-producer, *Men in Charge* radio program, KPBX public radio 2013-present
- Guest Host, *Just a Theory* radio program on KSFC public radio, 2011
- Workshop facilitator on V. Tinto, *Completing College*, 2nd Annual EWU Strategic Planning Conference 2013
- Academic ambassador to Liaoning Shihua University in Fushun, China to negotiate university partnership with EWU and establish a Confucius Institute in eastern Washington 2010

Professional Society Memberships:

The John Dewey Society; The American Philosophical Association (2005-2013); The Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy; The William James Society; The Council of Colleges of Arts and Sciences (2013-14)

REFERENCES

Dr. Jason T. Eberl
Semler Endowed Chair for Medical Ethics, Marian University, Indianapolis
(317) 414-8253

Dr. Terrance MacMullan
Professor of Honors and Philosophy, Eastern Washington University
(509) 359-6020

Dr. Lynn Briggs
Professor of English, former Dean of the College of Arts, Letters and Education, Eastern Washington University
(509) 359-6744

Dr. Lee A. McBride III
Associate Professor and Department Chair of Philosophy, College of Wooster
(330) 263-2548

Dr. Scott Pratt,
Professor and Director of Graduate Studies, Department of Philosophy, University of Oregon
(541) 346-5971

Dr. James Bohman,
Danforth Chair in the Humanities, Professor of Philosophy and International Studies, St. Louis University
(314) 977-3156